



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

Communicable Disease Center
Laboratory Branch
Atlanta 22, Georgia

Refer to:

August 11, 1960

Dr. J. Lederberg
Professor of Genetics
Stanford University
Palo Alto, California

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I am sorry there was a little delay in sending the cultures requested in your recent letter. We moved the laboratory to the new location near Emory University on August 1 so that services were slightly disrupted. I trust the cultures will reach you in good condition and that they will be satisfactory. I was surprised to hear that Dr. Nassal was working with you. I did not know that he was in this country.

We are planning to do some further work on antigen transduction and there are two questions which I would like to ask. The first has to do with technique. I believe that people in your laboratory have been able to obtain a much higher number of transductions per phage particle than we have. I believe this may have something to do with proportions of phage and organisms and perhaps with the use of plates rather than tubes. Therefore, I would like to ask how your recipient cultures are prepared and the relative numbers used in proportion to phage. Any comment you would make would be appreciated.

The second question I have to ask concerns your opinion of the large number of double transductions obtained by Velaudapillai (Zeitschr. f. Hygiene 146, 470-480, 1960). I note that in many instances that he was able to transduce both motility and flagellar antigens simultaneously. So far as I know these results are contrary to those obtained by all other investigators.

With kindest regards to you and Esther, I am

Sincerely yours,

Phil

Philip R. Edwards, Ph. D.
Chief, Enteric Bacteriology Unit
Microbiology Section

I'm getting too old to be moving laboratories about. I hope this is the last time. The new labs are beautiful but of course there are difficulties.